

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please delete the paragraph spanning lines 26-37 on page 14 and insert the following therefor:

Insertional amino acid sequence variants of a protein of the invention are those in which one or more amino acid residues are introduced into a predetermined site in a protein. Insertions may comprise amino-terminal and/or carboxy-terminal fusions as well as intra-sequence insertions of single or multiple amino acids. Generally, insertions within the amino acid sequence will be smaller than amino or carboxyl terminal fusions, for example of the order of about 1 to 10 residues. Examples of amino- or carboxy-terminal fusion proteins or peptides include the binding domain or activation domain of a transcriptional activator as used in the yeast two-hybrid system, phage coat proteins, (histidine)₆-tag, glutathione S-transferase, protein A, maltose-binding protein, dihydrofolate reductase, Tag-100 epitope (EETARFQPGYRS (SEQ ID NO:13)), c-myc epitope (EQKLISEEDL (SEQ ID NO:14)), FLAG-epitope (DYKDDDK (SEQ ID NO:15)), lacZ, CMP (calmodulin-binding peptide), HA epitope (YPYDVDPYA (SEQ ID NO:16)), protein C epitope (EDQVDPRLIDGK (SEQ ID NO:17)) and VSV epitope (YTDIEMNRLGK (SEQ ID NO:18)).

Please delete the paragraph spanning lines 32-34 on page 30 and insert the following therefor:

Fig. 1: Pileup and unrooted dendrogram showing homology between haemoglobin sequences from *Arabidopsis thaliana* (at, SEQ ID NO:4), *Brassica napus* (bn, SEQ ID NO:6), *Beta vulgaris* (bv, SEQ ID NO:2), *Gossypium hirsutum* (gh, SEQ ID NO:19), *Lycopersicon esculentum* (le, SEQ ID NO:20), *Casuarina glauca* (cg, SEQ ID NO:21).

Insert the attached Sequence Listing in place of the Sequence Listing filed September 30, 2005.